



HE HAS RISEN!

April 2015

In their fright the women bowed down with their faces to the ground, but the men said to them, “Why do you look for the living among the dead? He is not here; he has risen!”

Luke 24:5-6a

I wrote this when I was going through a hard time. I was suffering, but I felt close to Jesus:

I’ve spent the past weeks looking forward to Good Friday, longing to use the occasion to spend with Christ. I felt He knew me and what I’d been going through. And I felt I knew Him, the part of Him that suffered. I wanted to be “with” Him in whatever ways I could.

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But God does not want us to remain fixated on suffering, not even His own suffering. He calls us to focus on the power of the resurrection and what that means to us. He calls us to worship a risen Lord. (see Philippians 3:10-11)

The verses from Luke, as quoted above, are speaking clearly to me today. They call out to all of us. Why do we look for Jesus among the dead? He is no longer there. Jesus is alive and well.

Can we learn to look up and open our hands as we pray, ready to receive?

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It's time to joyfully join the risen Lord. To look up and see the beauty in life and everything around us: in nature; in the laughter of children; in the love of friends; in the hope God offers; in the profound, immeasurable love with which our heavenly Father holds us in His arms.

It's in this spirit that I wish you all a HAPPY EASTER!

marja